

tion, that I continued its use for several days, until I was perfectly free from pain, and could run and jump about in gallant style."

Getting tired of his Californian trips he takes a passage in the "Hound," Capt. Traiver, for the Georgian Islands; they first steer for the Kingsmill Islands. The purpose of the cruise of the "Hound" seems to have been to pick up cocoa-nut oil, arrowroot, beche-de-mer, tortoiseshell, dye-woods, or, in fact, anything that would answer the Sandwich Island or China markets.

At Drummond's Island the Doctor seems to have been overpowered with hospitality and generosity, half-a-dozen young and well-looking girls were furnished him as wives. Here is his account of their introduction—

"Having seated themselves in the centre of the floor, the first thing they did was to look at me, then laugh heartily. A song was commenced and continued for several minutes, accompanied by the occasional clapping of hands, then another chorus of laughing, and all got up to enter and dance round the house and over the soft covering of the floor. 'Well, thought I, these people are certainly very merry, and inclined to entertain their guest.' I could perceive, by an occasional exclamation, that some of them had picked up a word or two of English from previous visitors.

"They seemed to enjoy themselves in the very climax of merriment. When I asked the man what was all the fun about, he answered, grinning in a peculiar manner, 'By-and-by, you'll see.' They seemed at last to have partially tired themselves, and again squatted on the bed of leaves. Some lay down. Their only dress consisted of a small cloth round the waist, which extended nearly to the knees. Two or three of them now stood up, and spoke to me in the native language.

"I was all along imagining that the entire performance was intended as an act of hospitality for my amusement, when my interpreter informed me that they were told to come here by Hoonoo, who had tabooed them all to me for wives. I was certainly amazed at first at this peculiar and immoral stretch of hospitality, on the part of my young friend the chief, but soon found out that such an act was customary with the strangers visiting those islands, and that it would be considered strange, unusual, and partially insulting, to turn them out.

"However, I acted a determined part, and told them I did not want one, not to speak of half a dozen wives; they told the interpreter they would stop where they were, that they were (in their English) 'wiffy me,' and would not stir. I was now informed that all women tabooed to any man, looked upon him as long as he remained as their husband, and that to turn them away would insult them and their friends, and that some of their men's relatives might revenge the act. However, bribery has its influence here as amongst civilised people, and I promised presents to all these young women, which compromised matters in some measure, though I was obliged to leave them in undisturbed possession of the building, and go into Hoonoo's house, where I folded myself up in a mat and slept in a corner till daylight the next day."

At Utiroo, on the north side of the island, the natives take a fancy to his clothing, and he is obliged to strip and make an exchange of his dress for the fish-skin cap and war mat of a chief; and thus metamorphosed, his friends, and particularly the half-dozen of wives allotted to him, did not on his return at first recognise him.

The treacherous character of the natives becomes manifest, and they make a bold attack on the vessel before her departure. The ship next proceeds to Simpson's Island. The population of the Kingsmill group, in number about fourteen, is said to be very great. They subsequently shape their course for New Ireland, where they meet with an Englishman, named Thomas Manners, of London, who had turned native, and become adviser to the king. The author lands and makes some excursions into the interior, where he finds proofs of cannibalism being prevalent. Afterwards, he takes part in their combats, and enters with avidity into all the excitement attendant on the novelty of savage life and customs.

*A Royal visit—King Teru and his Retinue.*

"On the evening of the second day, we were honoured by a visit from the royal family of this district, or bay, which the called Wattoo. They were eight in number, three men and five women; and, whether they considered these lords of the creation entitled to superior distinction from the weaker sex or not, I cannot say, but, at all events, the men were in state in an elaborately ornamented large canoe, whilst the ladies were in a small plain one, and paddled on by some of their own sex.

"The three men were first on deck, one of them, a man of large frame, but great age, was the king, and called by the other two chiefs who accompanied him "Teru," his long hair was perfectly white and rested in folds on his shoulders and back of the neck;